## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all listings of the claims with the following:

Claims 1-33 (canceled)

Claim 34. (previously presented) A method for developing a therapeutic drug in a model animal system comprising the steps of:

a) infecting a lower primate with a human viral pathogen comprising HCV or a human retrovirus;

b) administering a potential therapeutic drug to said lower primate; and

c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic drug on disease manifestations caused by said human viral pathogen.

Claim 35. (previously presented) The method of claim 34 wherein said lower primate comprises a member of the genus Tupaia.

Claim 36. (previously presented) The method of claim 34 wherein said human retrovirus comprises HIV 1, HIV 2, HTLV-1 or HTLV-2.

Claim 37. (previously presented) The method of claim 34 wherein said therapeutic drug comprises an antigen or set of antigens derived from said human viral pathogen.

Claim 38. (previously presented) The method of claim 34 wherein cells, tissues or organs derived from said lower primate are infected in vitro.

Claim 39. (previously presented) A method for developing a therapeutic procedure in a model animal system comprising the steps of:

a) infecting a lower primate with a human viral pathogen comprising HCV or a human retrovirus;

b) carrying out a potential therapeutic procedure to said lower primate; and

c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic procedure on disease manifestations caused by

said human viral pathogen.

Claim 40. (previously presented) The method of claim 39 wherein said lower primate comprises a member of the genus Tupaia.

Claim 41 . (previously presented) The method of claim 39 wherein said human retrovirus comprises HIV 1, HIV 2, HTLV-1 or HTLV-2.

Claim 42. (previously presented) The method of claim 39 wherein cells, tissues or organs derived from said lower primate are infected in vitro.

Claim 43. (previously presented) The method of claim 39 wherein said therapeutic procedure comprises oral tolerization.

Claim 44. (previously presented) A composition comprising a therapeutic drug that has been shown to be effective in alleviating clinical manifestations of a disease caused by a human viral pathogen comprising HCV or a human retrovirus by:
a) infecting a lower primate with said human pathogen comprising HCV or a human retrovirus;
b) administering said therapeutic drug to said lower primate; and
c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic drug on said clinical manifestations.

Claim 45. (previously presented) The composition of claim 44 wherein said clinical manifestations are secondary manifestations of said infection.

Claim 46. (currently amended) The composition ~~method~~ of claim 44 wherein said lower primate comprises a member of the genus Tupaia.

Claim 47. (currently amended) The composition ~~method~~ of claim 44 wherein said human retrovirus comprises HIV 1, HIV 2, HTLV-1 or HTLV-2.

Claim 48. (currently amended) The composition ~~method~~ of claim 44 wherein cells, tissues or

organs derived from said lower primate are infected in vitro.

Claim 49. (previously presented) A method for developing a therapeutic procedure which alleviates clinical manifestations of a disease caused by a human pathogen comprising HCV or a human retrovirus, comprising the steps of:

a) infecting a lower primate with a human viral pathogen comprising HCV or a human retrovirus;
b) carrying out a potential therapeutic procedure to said lower primate; and
c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic procedure on clinical manifestations caused by said human pathogen.

Claim 50. (previously presented) The method of claim 49 wherein said therapeutic procedure comprises oral tolerization.

Claim 51 . (previously presented) The method of claim 49 wherein said clinical manifestations are secondary disease manifestations of said infection.

Claim 52. (previously presented) A method for developing a therapeutic drug in a model animal system comprising the steps of:

a) infecting a lower primate with a human pathogen;
b) administering a potential therapeutic drug to said lower primate; and
c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic drug on secondary disease manifestations caused by said human pathogen.

Claim 53. (previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein said lower primate comprises a member of the genus Tupaia.

Claim 54. (previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein said human pathogen comprises a human retrovirus.

Claim 55. (previously presented) The method of claim 54 wherein said human retrovirus

comprises HIV 1, HIV 2, HTLV-1 or HTLV-2.

Claim 56. (previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein said human pathogen comprises HBV or HCV.

Claim 57. (previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein said therapeutic drug is an antigen or set of antigens derived from said human pathogen.

Claim 58. (previously presented) A method for developing a therapeutic procedure in a model animal system comprising the steps of:
a) infecting a lower primate with a human pathogen;
b) carrying out a potential therapeutic procedure to said lower primate; and
c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic procedure on secondary disease manifestations caused by said human pathogen.

Claim 59. (previously presented) The method of claim 58 wherein said lower primate comprises a member of the genus Tupaia.

Claim 60. (previously presented) The method of claim 58 wherein said human pathogen comprises a human retrovirus.

Claim 61 . (previously presented) The method of claim 58 wherein said human retrovirus comprises HIV 1, HIV 2, HTLV-1 or HTLV-2.

Claim 62. (previously presented) The method of claim 58 wherein said human pathogen comprises HBV or HCV.

Claim 63. (previously presented) The method of claim 58 wherein said therapeutic procedure comprises oral tolerization.

Claim 64. (previously presented) A composition comprising a therapeutic drug that has been

shown to be effective in alleviating secondary clinical manifestations of a disease caused by a human pathogen by:

a) infecting a lower primate with said human pathogen;

b) administering said therapeutic drug to said lower primate; and

c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic drug on said secondary clinical manifestations.

Claim 65. (previously presented) The method of claim 64 wherein said lower primate comprises a member of the genus Tupaia.

Claim 66. (previously presented) The composition of claim 64 wherein said human pathogen comprises a human retrovirus.

Claim 67. (previously presented) The composition of claim 66 wherein said human retrovirus comprises HIV 1, HIV 2, HTLV-1 or HTLV-2.

Claim 68. (previously presented) The composition of claim 64 wherein said human pathogen comprises HBV or HCV.

Claim 69. (previously presented) A method for developing a therapeutic procedure which alleviates secondary clinical manifestations of a disease caused by a human pathogen comprising the steps of:

a) infecting a lower primate with a human pathogen;

b) carrying out a potential therapeutic procedure to said lower primate; and

c) evaluating the effect of said therapeutic procedure on clinical manifestations caused by said human pathogen.

Claim 70. (previously presented) The method of claim 69 wherein said lower primate comprises a member of the genus Tupaia.

Claim 71 . (previously presented) The method of claim 70 wherein said human pathogen comprises a human retrovirus.

Claim 72. (previously presented) The method of claim 71 wherein said human retrovirus comprises HIV 1, HIV 2, HTLV-1 or HTLV-2.

Claim 73. (previously presented) The method of claim 69 wherein said human pathogen comprises HBV or HCV.

Claim 74. (previously presented) The method of claim 69 wherein said therapeutic procedure comprises oral tolerization.

Claim 75. (new) The method of claim 37, wherein said antigen or set of antigens provide oral tolerance.

Claim 76. (new) The method of claim 43, wherein said tolerization is carried out by the administration of an antigen or set of antigens derived from said human viral pathogen.